

ABSTRACT

BIPOLAR CUTTING AND COAGULATING SNARE

5 A bipolar electrosurgical instrument for transecting tissue, and a method for
use of the same are provided. The instrument includes an introducer having a
channel therein extending from an opening at a distal end thereof, an electrically
conductive snare slidably positioned within the channel and slidable between an
undeployed position wherein it is substantially retracted within the channel and a
10 deployed position wherein a distal portion of the snare extends outwardly from the
channel. The electrically conductive snare is substantially insulated substantially
along its length but for a predetermined exposed section, and has an active and a
return electrode exposed through said exposed section. The instrument further
includes a retention element at a distal end of the snare for securing the distal end
15 of the snare to the introducer to thereby form a looped configuration of the snare,
and at least one fluid delivery channel extending through the introducer between a
fluid inlet and a fluid outlet at the distal end of the introducer and located in
proximity to the exposed section of the snare.